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OF THE DIVISION OF

DRY LAND AGRICULTURE INVESTIGATIONS

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Not for publication without
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REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, 1932.

HAVRE:

Fairly normal conditions prevailed in March with the moisture outlook slightly more favorable than it was earlier in the season.

A period of sub-zero weather began on March 3 and continued until the 13th with a minimum of -20 and a maximum of 13. After the 14th the minimum was above 20 until the 29th when it dropped to 15.

Precipitation for the month amounting to .74 inch is the highest for March in several years, the 50-year mean being .54 inch. Precipitation was recorded on 17 days, 8 of which were traces. The largest amount was .36 inch of rain and snow on the 25th. On the 31st there remains a light cover of snow from a recent storm but it is melting.

A team was in the field one-half day on the 28th.

Farmers generally have but little cash. Two-thirds of those in this county have asked for a federal loan. Relief though among these farmers was not unusually high during the past winter. Feed supplies for livestock are getting low and in the mountains where there has been a snow cover for the past month, the situation is in some cases serious.

JUDITH BASIN:

The weather during March was a decided contrast to that of the closing days of February. The mean temperature for the first 12 days of March was -1 with a minimum of -29 on March 7. During this period of low temperatures the ground was covered with about 8 inches of snow and very little damage was done to winter wheat or perennial hay crops. Total precipitation during the month totalled 1.61 inches, most of which fell in the form of snow. Since there was no frost in the ground when the snow fell, practically all of the moisture was absorbed by the soil and will be of immense value to all crops.

Maximum temperature, 62; minimum, -29; precipitation, 1.61 inches.

HUNTLEY:

The first half of March was decidedly wintery in southeastern Montana. Thirteen inches of snow fell between the dates of March 2 and 6, and minimum temperatures were below zero every day during the period March 3 to 12, inclusive. The coldest period was between March 7 and 11 when the minimum temperatures for consecutive days were 36, 31, 37, 32, and 26 degrees below zero.

A "chinook" wind began to blow on March 13 and on March 18 a maximum temperature of 56 degrees had been reached. Aided by a warm rain, which occurred March 19, most of the snow melted during that period. As frost had left the ground during the warm weather in February a large percentage of the moisture from the melted snow entered the soil with practically no run-off.

Rain was received every day from March 17 to 25 inclusive. The most precipitation received during a twenty-four hour period was .75 inch, which fell as an all-night rain March 19. Precipitation as rain or snow was received on 18 days of the month and totaled 2.43 inches, a new high record for March at this station.

The last week in March was warm and windy and the surface soil has dried rapidly. Pastures, alfalfa and native grasses have started spring growth as have winter wheat and rye. It is yet too early to determine the winter survival of the fall-sown grains as investigation has shown that many of the wheat plants are alive under ground although the tops appear to be dead.

Maximum temperature, 69; minimum, -37; precipitation, 2.43 inches.

SHERIDAN:

March was characterized by extreme low temperatures from the 3rd to the 12th, with 10 days in succession of minimum temperatures below zero and five days with a mean temperature of zero or below. Temperatures for the remainder of the month were about the average for the station. There were two periods of fairly heavy precipitation, around the 6th and the 20th, and light rain or snow fell on almost every day during the last ten days of the month. Total precipitation was slightly above the station average for the month. Wind movement was low from the 1st to the 22nd, and high for the remainder of the month, the average for the month being low.

Sheridan, continued:

Moisture conditions are not as good as might be expected from the amount of precipitation that has fallen since the middle of September. Soil samples taken at random show moisture only to a depth of from 16 to 20 inches, with the soil dry and hard below that depth. The surface of cultivated ground is still too wet to work, but some work has been done with the spring tooth harrow fitted with alfalfa teeth on crested wheatgrass in pastures, brome, and alfalfa. Small plots of alfalfa also have been worked with the disk and the duckfoot cultivator. With favorable weather, field work on some cultivated land probably will be possible by the 4th of this month (April).

Pigs began to farrow during the coldest weather early in the month. To date 49 pigs are alive from six gilts. From this number it appears probable that there will be sufficient for pasture work with more uniform lots than were had before. Lambing has been dragging along over a longer period than it seems that it should have, with a total of 41 lambs now from 28 ewes.

Dr. Hildreth and Mr. Babbs arrived at the station on the 31st from the Cheyenne Horticultural Station to look over the situation and consider plans for possible extension of fruit and vegetable work here.

Maximum temperature, 65 on the 31st, minimum, -24 on the 11th; mean, 24 - 8 degrees below the station average; precipitation, 1.70 inches.

DICKINSON:

March, 1933 was the coldest March since 1912. The mean temperature of 19.2 degrees was 6.1 degrees below normal. Ten days, beginning on the 4th had temperatures below zero with a minimum of -18 on the 6th and 7th.

Precipitation was recorded on eleven days but amounted to only .61 inch. For the seven months, September to March, the precipitation amounted to 6.37 inches, or 1.59 inches above normal. Most of the surplus fell in September.

No field work was done during the month. Only the top four to six inches of soil were free of frost at the end of the month. Grasses had barely started to show green and were not as far advanced as usual on this date.

Dickinson, continued:

Farmers are planning to seed about the usual acreage of the main crops in this district. Good quality seed grain is scarce, particularly oats and barley.

MANDAN:

Agronomy

The month of March was cold throughout. From March 3 to 11 the minimum temperature ranged from 4 to 18 degrees below zero, and there were three days during this period when the maximum temperature was below zero. The maximum temperature for the month was 54 degrees on the 24th. According to the Weather Bureau reports from Bismarck the mean temperature for March was 20 degrees. This is the lowest since 1919. During the 58 years of record at Bismarck there were 12 other times when the mean temperature for March was lower than this year. The snowfall for March was about 8 inches and the precipitation was 1.00 inch, which is practically normal. The highest wind velocity during March was 14.8 miles per hour from the northwest on the 8th. Practically all snow was gone at the end of the month.

For a number of years different varieties of corn have been grown for silage production. The following table shows the average yields for the period from 1923 to 1931.

Yields per acre

Variety	Pounds of Silage	Pounds Silage Air dried	Bushels of ear corn Air dried
Northwestern dent	8,600	4,038	30.1
Payne	8,708	4,126	30.1
Minn. No. 13	8,336	3,909	26.0
Mercer flint	9,484	4,421	26.6
Rainbow flint	11,160	5,060	33.6
Falconer	7,391	3,833	31.2

Horticulture

Tomatoes, egg plant, pepper, celery, early cabbage, and cauliflower seeds were planted in the greenhouse March 15. Tomato breeding is to be conducted as a yield test with four replicate plantings and seed of six strains of last year's selections were planted for this purpose March 25.

Mandan, continued:

Horticulture, continued.

Cannas and geraniums and other bedding plants for the grounds are well under way in the greenhouse and hotbeds.

Mulch on late fall planted perennials and shrubs is being removed. There is apparently very little frost in the ground at the present time.

Arboriculture

Unfavorable weather conditions have prevented the beginning of field operations during the month.

Tree seed of green ash, boxelder, Russian olive, buffaloberry, and chokecherry, which has been stratified over winter, was cleaned the latter part of the month.

A quantity of shingletoe has been prepared ready for the shipment of shelter belt tree stock.

BELLE FOURCHE:

The weather during March was unsettled and comparatively cold. Commencing March 3, the temperature dropped below zero on nine consecutive nights, and the daily maximum temperatures during the 9-day period ranged from 0 to 17 degrees. In no other March on record at this station have sub-zero temperatures occurred on more than seven days in succession. More moderate weather prevailed after March 12, but there were only four days in which freezing temperatures were not recorded. The mean temperature for the month was 25 degrees, which is six degrees below the 22-year average for March.

Precipitation was recorded on 17 days, but in no instance was the amount sufficient to be of any benefit to crops. The precipitation for March was .15 inch below normal, and the total for the first three months of the year was .57 inch below the normal of 1.54 inches.

Belle Fourche, continued:

A high wind on March 8 caused extensive drifting of snow and soil. Much of the winter wheat and winter rye on the dry-land rotation field was destroyed by the drifting soil, and reseeding of the various plots to spring wheat probably will be necessary except where the fall grain was seeded in small grain stubble.

Roadways and all uncropped corn stubble, sorgo stubble, and bare cultivated plots were duckfooted March 1 to retard soil blowing. Spring field work commenced March 30, and plowing for small grain has been completed. Corn stubble ground plowed up in large, hard lumps, and was almost as dry as at time of harvesting corn. Small-grain stubble plots were moist to a depth of 4 or 5 inches, and the soil plowed up in unusually good condition.

Maximum temperature, 62; minimum, -15; precipitation, .57 inch.

ARDMORE:

The month of March was the windiest month ever recorded at this station. The average wind velocity was 9.2 miles per hour, which is .8 of a mile per hour higher than the previous record.

The month was also characterized by the worst blizzard in recent years. About eight inches of very light snow fell on March 3 and 5. This snow remained undisturbed until the afternoon of March 7 when a high northwest wind arose and the snow started to drift. During that night and all of the next day the wind continued to blow with unabated intensity. The temperature remained below zero nearly all of this time, and the low temperature and high wind combined to make this storm the most severe in many years. Practically all of the snow collected in drifts and before the storm was 12 hours old, and then soil blowing commenced from the ground that was laid bare. In the pasture immediately south of the office considerable soil blowing took place from Buffalo grass sod. The roads were blocked after the storm, but the drifts were so hard that cars could travel over them without difficulty.

Some stock losses during the storm were reported, but the amount of loss was not large considering the thin condition of the stock.

Ardmore, continued:

After this storm the weather remained unsettled nearly the entire month. The temperature rose enough for the snow to disappear from cultivated fields before the end of the month.

High winds on March 29, 30 and 31 caused soil blowing on some of the fields, but the amount of soil blowing was not more than normally occurs. In the section as a whole the amount of soil blowing was the greatest in recent years.

Work on the rotations was commenced on March 28. All of the plowing, disking and duckfooting preparatory to seeding small grains was completed by the end of the month.

The precipitation for the month was .71 inch which is a little above the average. The maximum temperature was 64 degrees and the minimum -20. The average temperature for the month was below that of February.

ARCHER:

The month of March was rather cold. The first two weeks were very cold. The lowest temperature reached -20 degrees during the night of March 10. The lowest maximum was four degrees above. The average minimum temperature for the 10-day period March 3 to 12, inclusive, was -8.6 degrees. Following the cold spell the weather was cool and threatening with piercing winds. The last week was warm with strong winds especially during the day, when severe soil blowing occurred.

The total precipitation was .60 inch, most of which occurred during March 6 in the form of a wet snow which drifted to some extent. This makes a total of .83 inch of precipitation to date in 1932.

During the month the work consisted of routine dairy work and the preparation of seed for spring planting. Field work began March 29 and consisted of plowing, disking and duckfooting. The office work consisted of completing the annual report and making an outline for spring work.

Maximum temperature, 58; minimum, -20; precipitation, .60 inch.

AKRON:

The forepart of the month brought snows which netted .60 inch of precipitation. The latter part of the month, particularly the last week, has been characterized by hard driving northwest winds which have kept the air well filled with dust. Some very severe soil blowing has occurred over the country side immediately adjacent to the station, and it is expected that winter wheat seeded on fallow throughout this general region has suffered.

No blowing has occurred within the station lines though many open blocks of bare to semi-bare land were in excellent condition to start blowing. Needless to say these areas are being stirred with duck-foot cultivator and with spring-tooth harrow, just as fast as they can be covered. Ground is badly crusted and cracked and the spring-tooth harrow does an excellent job of creating a non-blowing condition by upending the crusted blocks.

Land seeded to winter wheat, like so much other land, came through the winter in a badly crusted and cracked condition. The rotary hoe was run over all station winter wheat and rye for the dual purpose of breaking the surface soil crust and of creating a non-blowing condition. Winter wheat here on the station has not as yet emerged and prospects are not bright for satisfactory stands. Some of the berries are in a viable condition, others are sprouting, and still others have sprouted and the tops have curled backward under the surface crust.

Teams have been busy the past ten days seeding the early spring seeded small grain variety experiments and in preparing the rotation cultural methods plots for seeding. Aside from the high wind and the dust laden air the weather has been favorable for this work.

44 Smith-Hughes High School pupils, representing some ten high schools, together with their instructors, from northeast Colorado, gathered here March 18 for a district elimination contest in grain and potato judging. Mr. Curtis was in charge of station arrangements for these youngsters.

The coldest weather of the whole winter was experienced the first half of the month when the temperature descended to 17 below zero.

Maximum temperature, 69 on the 29th; minimum, -17; precipitation, .60 inch.

NORTH PLATTE:

March brought little change in the crop outlook for this section. Mild temperatures during the latter part of February and the first three days of March removed all frost from the ground, swelled tree buds, and permitted a beginning of field operations. This was followed by an eight day period of unusual severity with minimum temperatures ranging from 0 to -8 degrees, and a mean temperature of 9 degrees. Precipitation, chiefly as snow, was received on 12 days, and totaled .54 inch.

There has been but little change in the condition of winter wheat and the present outlook for this locality is for almost complete abandonment. Spring wheat seeded March 2 is beginning to emerge with scattered stands.

Russian thistles are making a good start, and under present moisture conditions it will be difficult for spring grains to catch up with them. Kochia scoparia which had started during the warm period in February was badly frozen by the low temperatures of early March. This is the first time since the arrival of this weed here that it has been seriously retarded by spring freezing.

The barley acreage is being increased considerably in this locality, and would be still greater if seed were available. The greater part of the reduced or abandoned winter wheat acreage will be used for corn, so that the increase in acreage of this crop will doubtless exceed 50 per-cent.

COLBY:

The weather during March has been rather cold, dry, windy, changeable, and at times very disagreeable. There were seven days when considerable soil blowing occurred in this vicinity. The surface soil is so dry and loose that it blows readily. Winter wheat went through the winter in very good shape, especially considering the fact that it got a very poor start last fall. The winds this month, however, have destroyed thousands of acres and left a lot of the rest looking sick. Most of the damage was done on the 29th.

On the 29th the wind blew hard from about the middle of the forenoon until late at night. At about 5 o'clock in the afternoon it turned into one of the very worst dust storms this vicinity has ever experienced since 1914. For about three hours the wind blew a gale and the dust filled the air so that one could not see more than a few yards

Colby, continued:

away. The Dry Land plots were each protected by a listed furrow on all sides and the roadways had all been roughened with a duck-foot machine and still considerable soil blowing took place on most of the bare plots and the winter wheat plots which are not in small grain stubble or in standing corn stalks. One plot of winter wheat in stubble was completely covered and the wheat buried by soil drifting from an adjacent plot, which had been plowed, so that it was necessary to remove the soil with a rake to save the wheat.

Practically all the stubbled-in wheat looks promising and is making excellent growth at this time. The methods of fallow on the new project also look very promising, as do also all the methods of seed-bed preparation, except some of those plowed with a mold board plow. On the old project none but those stubbled-in look very good. On the fallows the wheat is green, but has been punished by the winds. The wheat on plowing, on bean ground, in milo stubble, and in corn stubble looks very weak and will probably not survive. Last fall it looked like there would not be any at all in the standing stalks, but now it looks as though it might be a fair stand. It is just barely above the ground, however.

The ground for the spring small grains was prepared on the 23rd, 24th and 25th. The spring wheat and oats were seeded on the 25th and the barley and peas on the 26th. Some loose dirt blew on a number of these plots partially filling the drill furrows.

To prevent, as far as possible, further damage from soil blowing all the roadways have been ridged with a deep furrow drill. All the fallow plots which were worked last season and are now bare, the A plots of corn, milo, and kafir, and a number of the others which have no protection except sorghum or corn stubble, were also worked with the deep furrow drill. A very good job was done. There appears to be ample moisture underneath the surface.

Precipitation for March, 1932, .34 inch; average, .86 inch.
Precipitation for January 1 to April 1, 1932, 1.29 inches; average, 1.75 inches.
Maximum temperature for March, 78 on the 29th; minimum, -6 on the 10th.

HAYS:

The maximum temperature for the month was 80 degrees. The minimum was 4 degrees below zero. The mean temperature was 35.4 degrees, which is 6.7 below normal. The coldest period of the month was from the 7th to the 12th inclusive, during which time the temperatures ranged between 22 above zero and 4 below zero.

The total precipitation for the month was .82 inch, most of which fell in the form of snow on six different days. The largest amount of precipitation that occurred in one day was .20 inch.

Winter wheat suffered from winter killing during the severe weather of March, probably due to the sudden drop in temperature following a period of warm growing weather. The amount of damage cannot be determined at this time but it is not believed serious. Wheat seeded with a 14-inch furrow drill appears to have suffered less than wheat seeded with the ordinary 7 and 8-inch drills.

While the growth of wheat is much lighter than usual due to a late start in the fall on account of dry surface soil, the wheat generally looks good except on continuously stubbled-in plots. As usual the wheat on fallow is the heaviest, but not much better than on early fall plowing. On late prepared ground the growth is much lighter. On the different methods of late preparation plowing is the poorest. The wheat on ground one-wayed or listed is much better and has suffered less from winter killing.

The wheat has not suffered from soil blowing but the danger is not entirely past. March 29 soil blowing commenced on unworked corn stubble plots, deep tilled fallow, fall plowed plots (which are to be planted later to corn) and some roadways, making it necessary to cultivate these areas to prevent soil movement. One large fall plowed commercial field on the station commenced blowing badly, making it necessary to cultivate the whole field to arrest soil movement. While there is still some danger of soil blowing the condition is well under control at this time in this locality. In some localities not far west of Hays considerable damage has been reported from soil blowing.

The soil has been so wet all winter and spring no tillage work was possible until on March 29, and some of it is still too wet for good work. However, tillage work was commenced on the project and all small spring grain plots were made ready to begin seeding April 1.

TUCUMCARI:

Very warm weather in February caused fruit trees to make unusually early bud growth, while the coldest weather of the winter in early March greatly reduced fruit prospects. The mean temperature for February was 47 degrees, while that of March was 43. Grass and trees have been showing some green the past few days. Precipitation to date for 1932 totals only 1.49 inches, with four snows in March totaling 0.27 inch precipitation.

Wind movement the past month has been slightly below the 15-year average, but so spasmodic in character that more than usual difficulty has been experienced in preventing soil movement. Calm periods and gales have alternated regularly.

Field work has been confined to cultivation to minimize soil blowing. Listing will be performed during April. Station work has included planting of trees, pruning vineyard, leveling roads, overhauling and repairing implements, and other essential, unimpressive seasonal jobs.

Wheat on the plains portion of the county is in most instances good, although where stands were light on sandy soil some blowing has occurred. With normal precipitation the next two months, yields should be higher than normal, although the total crop of the county will be much lower than last year.

Farmers have had an abundance of feed and there has been little incentive to stint livestock, for feed prices are low and the demand very limited.

Maximum temperature, 80; minimum, 7; precipitation, 0.27 inch; wind velocity, 6.1 miles per hour.

DALHART:

The past month has been characterized by unfavorable crop conditions. The first few days of the month were warm and mild. This mild weather was closely followed by the most severe temperatures of the winter. These temperatures were unseasonably low and prolonged. The last few days of the month have been warm and spring like. The wind velocity has averaged less than normal, or below the average for the month. Several very hard winds at different times during the month have caused severe soil blowing. Wheat, which is small, has suffered from the cutting sand on farms. On the station winter wheat, winter rye, and oats have not been severely punished. Barley has suffered more on the station than any crop from the blowing soil; this may be due to location.

Dalhart, continued:

The low temperatures, which followed the mild weather of February, did more damage than has been experienced for some time. Peaches and apricots were killed in the bud, the apricots being almost ready to bloom at the time. Chinese arbor vitae suffered more than other trees; many were killed, and others were frozen almost beyond recovery. The size of the trees had very little to do with the killing as all sizes, seedlings to 15-ft. trees, were killed or damaged. The early flowering shrubs were nipped. Growth has just started again the last three days of the month, so that damage on other shrubs and trees may become apparent. Lilacs and Spiraea Vanhoutte are leafing out.

Replacements were made in the windbreak which was planted last spring, and windbreak planting was made south of the vineyard. Several specimen plantings have been made this spring as well as several replacements.

Rather fortunately the rye planted for wind protection in tree plantings, orchard, and vineyard made sufficient growth during the warm days of February, so that no wind damage was suffered during March. Cultivation of fields was highly imperative to prevent blow damage on some of the worst days ever witnessed here.

Mean temperature for the month was 38 degrees, which was 6 degrees colder than February; the minimum temperature was 5 degrees below zero. Precipitation, 0.58 inch; wind velocity, 7.8 miles per hour.

BIG SPRING:

The coldest weather of the winter was experienced during the first two weeks of March. During this time the minimum dropped below freezing for 12 continuous mornings. Two light snows were received, the total precipitation from both being only .15 inch. All of the peach trees and many of the plums were in full bloom when the freezing temperatures hit this section. After a week of minimums ranging from 18 to 22, the prospects for much fruit is very remote. Cherries and some of the hybrid plums which were slow in putting out have not been injured as yet.

Wind velocity has been high throughout the month, and on two occasions has caused considerable soil movement. Only .17 inch of precipitation has been received during the month, and .15 inch of this was received in the form of snow.

Big Spring, continued:

Listing of the increase fields was completed during the early part of the month. Spring plowing and listing were also completed. A row of Russian apricots and Chinese elm trees was planted along the south and west sides of the station along the highway. Land has also been prepared for a spacing test with evergreens. Other work has consisted of plowing under wheat in the orchard, vineyard, and roadways.

Station visitors during the month included R. E. Karper, Vice Director of the Texas Station; J. M. Jones and J. H. Jones, of the Animal Husbandry Division of the Texas Station, and W. H. Black, of the Bureau of Animal Industry, Washington, D. C.

Maximum temperature, 80; minimum, 18; precipitation, .17 inch.

LAWTON:

March weather, including late freezes, a good many days of high wind velocity, and but very little precipitation, was more or less a repetition of similar conditions in 1931. The minimum temperature ranged from 16 to 28 from March 4 to 14, and the maximum for the same period ranged from 30 to 65. A minimum temperature of 29, frost, and ice were again recorded on the 31st of March.

Vegetative growth that retained so much sap throughout the mild winter, and started an early growth under the warm temperatures in February was severely frozen back by the March freezes. Subsequent renewal of growth of nearly every thing that was injured has been very slow.

High winds during the month depleted surface moisture rapidly, and the three little showers representing the total of 0.21 inch for March were of little consequence.

Fall plowed land still retains a good supply of moisture, but the surface was so badly crusted that spring toothing was necessary. Land that is to be spring plowed breaks up hard and lumpy and cannot be worked down to a good seed bed until moisture is renewed. The dry, rough surface soil and cold weather have so far delayed corn planting.

Lawton, continued:

Alfalfa, so well advanced in growth in February, is recovering from the freeze injury very slowly. The spring growth of sweet clover started much later than alfalfa and the present condition of the clover is satisfactory.

Austrian winter peas made insufficient growth during the winter to afford grazing, but increased growth during March was quite evident.

In the wheat variety test, Nebraska 28 and Early Blackhull are again conspicuous by reason of injury from March freezes. Nebraska 28 survived about 50 per cent, but the damage to Early Blackhull was very much less than that. Both are rapidly recovering with new growth. Slight injury which was confined to the killing of leaf tips was present on all of the soft wheat varieties. Kanred x Hard Federation, Kansas Nos. 2671 and 2673 showed about the same injury as the soft wheats.

Freeze injury to varieties of winter oats was, in most instances, very severe, reducing the stands as much as 50 to 75 per-cent on some varieties. Nortex C. I. No. 2382 suffered the most injury and Custis and Winter Turf showed the least damage. Fulghum C. I. No. 2499 appeared to be slightly more resistant than Fulghum C. I. No. 2498.

Spring oats planted February 8 to 10, was killed back to the surface of the ground, but recovery is about completed except such varieties as Columbia, C. I. 2820, Early Red Rustproof C. I. 2883, Brunker, Burt x 60 Day, and Nortex.

The first two varieties in this group appear to be entirely killed, and a very serious reduction in stand seems evident on the remaining varieties. Renewed growth of Fulghum, Kanota, Frazier, and Ferguson 922 is quite satisfactory.

Some injury was evident along the borders of winter barley plots, and Orel was damaged more than any other variety.

WOODWARD:

Following a mild February which started trees, shrubs and flowers to bud in advance of their usual season, the first half of March was cold with temperature dropping down to 8 degrees. Bloom was killed on many varieties of fruit and flowering shrubs and considerable damage was done to wood growth of young evergreens, especially to arborvitaes and privets. Late spring freezes the last two years have been very discouraging to extensive planting of trees in this part of the country. However, this has afforded an excellent opportunity to observe which plant material is tender or hardy, for this region.

Precipitation during March was light, and high winds during the last half of the month resulted in considerable drying out and blowing of soil. Plenty of fall and winter precipitation carried growing wheat up to the spring season in good condition.

Station work during the early part of the month consisted of cleaning and sacking sorghum seed, pruning grapes and fruit trees, and cultivating vineyard, orchard and tree nursery. Also, nursery stock was packed and shipped to cooperators. The middle part of the month was spent in disking plot roads, building nursery seed beds, repairing machinery, grubbing dead trees, and drilling sweet clover. Planting first varietal date of corn, grading terraces to prevent fields from washing, building vineyard trellises, planting trees and preparing plots and fields for later planting made up the work for the last part of March.

Maximum temperature, 83 on the 15th; minimum, 8 on the 10th;
precipitation, .46 inch, distributed over six days of snow and rain.

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